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4. (Amended) The method according to Claim 28, wherein said nucleic acid comprises nucleotides 81-944 of the human heme oxygenase-I nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.



- 5. (Amended) The method according to Claim 28, wherein said contacting is ex vivo.
- 6. (Amended) The method according to Claim 28, wherein said contacting is in vivo.
- 7. (Amended) The method according to Claim 28, wherein said organ transplant is an allograft.
- 9. (Amended) The method according to Claim 28, wherein said contacting is with a liposome-mediated nucleic acid transfer vehicle.



- 10. (Amended) The method according to Claim 28, wherein said contacting is with a viral-mediated nucleic acid transfer vehicle.
- 11. (Amended) The method according to Claim 28, wherein said contacting is accomplished by direct injection of said nucleic acid into said organ.
- 12. (Amended) The method according to Claim 28, wherein the heme oxygenase-I activity in said cells is increased.
- 16. (Amended) The method according to Claim 29, wherein said contacting is ex vivo.



- 17. (Amended) The method according to Claim 29, wherein said contacting is in vivo.
- 18. (Amended) The method according to Claim 29, wherein said organ transplant is an allograft.



- 20. (Amended) The method according to Claim 29, wherein said contacting is with a liposome-mediated nucleic acid transfer vehicle.
- 21. (Amended) The method according to Claim 29, wherein said contacting is with a viral-mediated nucleic acid transfer vehicle.

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22. (Amended) The method according to Claim 29, wherein said contacting is accomplished by direct injection of said nucleic acid molecule into said organ.

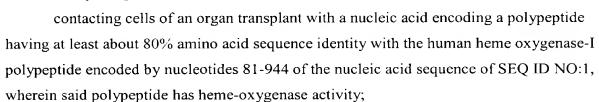
Please enter the following new claims.

28. (New) A method for extending the survival of an organ transplant in a recipient, said method comprising:

contacting cells of an organ transplant with a nucleic acid having at least about 80% sequence identity to nucleotides 81-944 of the human heme oxygenase-I nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein said nucleic acid encodes a polypeptide having hemeoxygenase activity;

whereby the survival time of said organ transplant is extended.

29. (New) A method for extending the survival of an organ transplant in a recipient, said method comprising:



whereby the survival time of said organ transplant is extended.

- 30. (New) The method according to claim 29, wherein said polypeptide comprises human heme oxygenase I encoded by nucleotides 81-944 of the nucleic acid of SEQ ID NO: 1.
- 31. (New) The method according to Claim 29, wherein the heme oxygenase-I activity in said cells is increased.

REMARKS

Claims 4-12, 16-22, and 28-31 remain pending in the application following entry of the amendments. Without admitting the propriety of the rejection and in a desire to advance prosecution of this case, Applicants have cancelled claims 1-3, 13-15, and 26-27. Claims 28-31 have been added. Claims 4-7, 9-12, and 16-22 have been amended to depend from the

